

Appl. No.: 09/623,115
Response dated January 22, 200
Reply to Office action of October 23, 2003

Remarks

Favorable consideration and allowance of the instant application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments to the claims, and the remarks which follow.

Claims 14-30 are pending in this application.

Claim 14 has been amended. No new matter is thought to be introduced thereby.

The Examiner's rejections, as they pertain to the patentability of the claims, are respectfully traversed.

Claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Crompton. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Initially, Applicant would like to note that it is well settled that a factual determination of anticipation requires the disclosure, in a single reference, of each and every element of the claimed invention, and an Examiner must identify wherein each and every facet of the claimed invention is disclosed in the applied reference. See, In re Levy, 17 USPQ2d 1561 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990). Applicant respectfully submits that the Crompton reference fails to anticipate the claimed invention on the grounds that it fails to disclose each and every element thereof. More particularly, the Crompton reference fails to disclose the use of from about 20 to 90% by weight of an inorganic high-temperature-resistant filler. As a result, this reference cannot serve to anticipate the claimed invention, per In re Levy, supra.

Accordingly, for all of the above-stated reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the foregoing reply is completely responsive under 37 CFR 1.111 and that all grounds for rejection are completely avoided and/or overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

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The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney if any further questions remain which can be resolved by a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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